

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE REQUESTED FILING OF RULE 1.53(B)
CONTINUATION PATENT APPLICATION BASED ON
THE FOLLOWING PENDING PRIOR PATENT APPLICATION:

In re Application of: John R. Liddicoat et al.
Serial No.: 09/888,282
Filing Date: 06/22/01
Title: AUTOMATED ANNULAR PLICATION
FOR MITRAL VALVE REPAIR
Group Art Unit: 3765
Examiner: Shaun R. Hurley
Attorney's Docket No.: VIA-6

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AFFIDAVIT VERIFYING APPLICATION

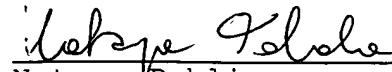
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
County of Middlesex

I, James A. Sheridan, being duly registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and being duly sworn, depose and state that: I am attorney of record in the above-identified pending prior application Serial No. 09/888,282, filed 06/22/01, and that the enclosed application is a true and complete copy of the prior application Serial No. 09/888,282 as filed, and that no amendments referred to in the oath or declaration filed to complete the prior patent application Serial No. 09/888,282 introduced new matter therein.



James A. Sheridan
Registration No. 43,114

Sworn to before me this 9th day of March, 2004.



Notary Public
My commission expires: 4-17-09